

03500.014184 (35.C14184)



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                              |   |                           |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| In re Application of:        | ) |                           |
|                              | : | Examiner: Timothy J. Henn |
| Masahiko KIKUZAWA            | ) |                           |
|                              | : | Group Art Unit: 2612      |
| Application No.: 09/487,868  | ) |                           |
|                              | : |                           |
| Filed: January 20, 2000      | ) |                           |
|                              | : |                           |
| For: IMAGE SENSING APPARATUS | ) |                           |
| HAVING VARIABLE NOISE        | : |                           |
| REDUCTION CONTROL BASED      | ) |                           |
| ON ZOOM OPERATION MODE       | : |                           |
| (AS AMENDED)                 | ) | October 24, 2005          |

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

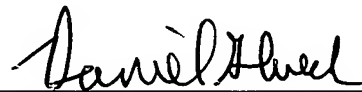
Applicant is in receipt of a Notice of Allowance dated September 26, 2005, in the above-referenced application. The Issue Fee is due on or before December 26, 2005, and is being paid concurrently herewith.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Reasons for Allowance set forth in the September 26, 2005 Notice of Allowability on the grounds that whereas the Reasons refer to "when the electronic zoom device operates a noise reduction amount provided by a noise reduction device is lowered compared to the noise reduction amount in the case where the optical zoom device operates", the claims instead recite --wherein said electronic zoom device executes a zoom operation for an image in which noise has been reduced by said noise reduction device, and said setting device sets the control value to a control value providing a lower noise reduction amount than a noise reduction amount to be used when said electronic zoom device executes the zoom

operation, when it is determined that said optical zoom device executes the zoom operation-- (Claim 1) or --wherein said electronically zooming step executes the zoom operation for an image in which noise has been reduced in said noise reducing step, and said setting step sets the control value to a control value providing a lower noise reduction amount than a noise reduction amount to be used when said electronically zooming step executes a zoom operation, when it is determined that an optical zoom operation is being executed-- (Claims 9 and 17).

Applicant's attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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